

Valley benefit to raise critical funds for local safety net food programs. This extremely successful event which has meant the difference between food and hunger for many Napa County residents would not exist if it were not for the vision and hard work of Donna and Giovanni Scala. What began in their kitchen at their world-renowned restaurant Bistro Don Giovanni ten years ago has blossomed into a national role model that has raised over \$1.3 million for our community's most vulnerable members.

Donna and Giovanni have made countless contributions toward improving the community they are so much a part of and love. It seems that every time there is a need, they are there with a donation. None, however, have been as significant and far-reaching than their efforts regarding this annual event.

Mr. Speaker, I was honored to take part in the first Hands Across the Valley event in 1994 when we tossed pizzas in the Scala's kitchen for 500 guests and raised \$30,000. Thanks in large part to Donna and Giovanni's continued support, this year's event is expected to be bigger and more successful than ever before, with nearly 2,000 guests and volunteers working together to raise more than \$200,000 to ensure none of our neighbors are without food.

Donna and Giovanni Scala put their heart and soul into this event because they understand its importance. They know that not everyone has shared in our nation's prosperity. They understand that nearly half of those seeking assistance from Napa's food pantries and soup kitchens are children and that nearly one out of every three families seeking help does not have an oven or a refrigerator.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and appropriate to honor the commitment and integrity that Donna and Giovanni Scala have given our community for so many years. We are all better off because of their efforts.

#### AGAINST A CONGRESSIONAL COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 5, 2003*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to a cost-of-living increase for Members of Congress. Across our country, the struggling economy is hurting businesses and leaving many without jobs. Latest projections show the national debt climbing to an unprecedented level. We should set an example by voting against this pay increase. Fiscal discipline must start with Congress.

In addition, by not allowing a regular yes-or-no vote on this provision, we simply add to the impression that too many people have about Congress. If Congress is to vote itself a raise in pay, it should be done in full view of the American public, not through a quiet procedural motion.

This process needs to be reformed. Members of Congress should not be able to receive an automatic cost-of-living increase. Each of us should be on the record with the citizens of our districts whether we believe an increase to our own salaries is justified.

#### TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. JO ANN DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2989) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to voice my opposition to an increase in Member's of Congress salaries. During these difficult economic times at all levels of government and with increasing federal deficits, I believe we should not be raising our own salaries.

Yesterday the House considered the Rule for the Transportation and Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY 2004. While this bill does not include any provision related to an increase in pay for Members of Congress (the Member COLA is automatic each year under existing law), by tradition when Congress has blocked the Member COLA, the blocking provision has been included in this bill.

Because blocking the Member COLA would constitute a change in existing law, an amendment to block the COLA would be subject to a point of order on the floor, and therefore not allowed. Since the Rule does not permit a waiver from the point of order for such an amendment, the House in recent years has taken a vote on the previous question on the Rule. Yesterday I voted "no" on the previous question in an attempt to defeat the measure so that an amendment to the Rule to block the Member cost-of-living allowance could receive an up or down vote.

Unfortunately, the measure passed and the rule was not therefore amendable. In light of various factors, most importantly a 4.1 percent pay raise for our civilian workforce and to remove Ghost Fleet ships in my District, I am left with no recourse except to vote for the final passage of the Transportation/Treasury Appropriations Act. If I had the opportunity to vote directly to eliminate this year's cost of living adjustments for Members, I would most certainly do so.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. P. GREY CANE, JR.

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 5, 2003*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a good man, a proud American and a fine member of the South Alabama community, Mr. P. Grey Cane, Jr., who passed away on Saturday, August 9th, at his home in Fairhope, Alabama.

A solid businessman and a true community leader, Grey Cane was loved by his family and friends and respected by his peers.

Grey was known for his generosity, not only for those he knew well but also for those

whom he had never met. Throughout his life, Mr. Cane worked for the preservation of Alabama's treasured waterways which have for many years provided immense enjoyment to tens of thousands of residents and tourists. His love of the outdoors and his passion for preserving our waterways will never be forgotten.

As a young man, Grey founded KEMKO, Inc., a company providing construction, building, and roofing materials. His employees felt a strong loyalty to Mr. Cane and often spoke highly of his giving nature and attentiveness to their needs.

Mr. Cane also had a strong and independent spirit which made him both a tough negotiator and successful businessman. However, Grey Cane never allowed his many successes to be used simply for his own good.

At times, he used the KEMKO warehouses as depositories for extra building supplies and allowed those in need to take what was considered necessary from storage. In addition to his generosity, Grey Cane had a way that made everyone who came in contact with him feel special, a rare quality in today's times.

A sportsman at heart, Mr. Cane devoted tremendous amounts of time and energy to the establishment of the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) of Alabama and, subsequently, the Eastern Shore chapter of the same organization. Those close to him note the zeal he had for the cause of environmental protection and the tenacity with which he fought for this worthy cause. Grey Cane realized the importance of preserving our natural habitats and continued fighting for this cause throughout his entire life. In recognition of his charitable gifts and his lifelong dedication to the cause of environmental conservation, the CCA recently honored Mr. Cane by renaming a thriving coastal reef in his honor.

Through his charitable contributions to society, his strong dedication to protecting and preserving Alabama's waterways, fisheries and natural resources, and his generosity to his friends, family, and coworkers, Mr. Cane leaves a lasting and memorable mark on all of Alabama's Gulf Coast region. I am proud to have called him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, P. Grey Cane, Jr., is survived by his wonderful wife of almost 50 years, Katchie, a son, Peter Grey Cane, III, a daughter, Laura Cane Armstrong, two grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, one sister, an aunt and nieces, nephews and other relatives. May his family know that they are in the thoughts and prayers of many who loved and appreciated Grey Cane as they did.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVE HOART

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 5, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before this body of Congress and this nation to honor the career of a great man from my district. After twenty years of service, Dave Hoart, of Texas Creek, Colorado, is retiring from his post at the Division of Wildlife. Dave's invaluable contributions to the community will be missed, and I stand before you here today to honor his service.

Dave began his position as the Custer County District Wildlife Manager in 1983. Selflessly, Dave attributes all of his success over

the years to the community and not to his own actions. He has seen a great deal of change in the region during his term, serving as the person residents call when they have a question about any new developments in wildlife patterns. During Dave's tenure, the area has been transformed from a primarily small agricultural community to a larger, less-rural community.

Mr. Speaker, it is people like Dave, and their willingness to dedicate so much of their lives to the betterment of the nation, that make America so great. His excellent rapport with the community and his expertise will be extremely difficult to replace. I wish him the best with all of his future endeavors.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ACT OF 2003

#### HON. TOM OSBORNE

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 5, 2003*

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the "Improving the Community Services Block Grant Act of 2003" to reauthorize the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program.

The CSBG is an anti-poverty block grant that funds a state-administered network of over 1,100 public and private community action agencies delivering social services to low-income Americans. The CSBG Act was established in 1981 in response to President Reagan's proposal to consolidate the Community Services Administration and 11 other anti-poverty programs.

Block grant funds may be used for a wide-range of anti-poverty activities to help families and individuals achieve self-sufficiency. Such activities may include providing assistance in finding and retaining employment, obtaining adequate housing, and providing emergency food services. The CSBG also includes funding for certain discretionary activities, including community economic development, rural community facilities improvement, the community food and nutrition assistance, and the national youth sports program. The CSBG program is an essential tool in meeting the unique needs of each area and serves as a conduit for community services.

The bill I am introducing today would build upon improvements made to the program during the last reauthorization. It would promote increased quality by requiring states to reevaluate whether the lowest performing grantees should continue to receive funding. It modifies the current grandfather provisions that are tied to the definition of eligibility that guarantee funding for current grantees to a provision giving all current grantees a priority for continued funding based on their ability to meet grantee determined goals.

This bill promotes increased accountability by ensuring that states are monitoring local grantees to ensure services are being provided in the most efficient manner and that services are reaching those with the greatest need. The bill also requires the development of local grantee determined goals that each local grantee is responsible for meeting.

The bill further encourages initiatives to improve economic conditions and mobilization of

new resources in rural areas to help eliminate obstacles to the self sufficiency of families and individuals in rural communities, and expands opportunities for providing youth mentoring services to encourage education, life skills training, and youth crime prevention.

Finally, the bill continues the CSBG grants and discretionary programs at current authorization levels and extends them through FY 2009.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to back this important legislation that supports improved services for low-income individuals and families.

#### TRIBUTE TO JACK POLLARD—A LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE

#### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 5, 2003*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an outstanding individual who has served this House for as long as I have—more than 26 years. Jack Pollard, who has worked on my personal staff and as a staff member on the House Armed Services Committee staff, recently retired from Federal service to pursue new opportunities in the private sector.

It's fair to say that I have known Jack for his entire life. Jack was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and grew up in Lexington, Missouri, which is also my hometown. Our fathers were great friends from way back, so the Pollard family has always been a part of my life.

Jack graduated from Lexington High School and attended the University of Missouri at Columbia where he earned A.B. and J.D. degrees. Following his graduation from Law School, he worked in Jefferson City as a research analyst and legislative counsel for the Missouri General Assembly's Committee on Legislative Research.

Jack served on active duty with the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1970. His service included 13 months in Vietnam as a member of the 101st Airborne Division. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Bronze Star (Meritorious Service) during his Vietnam tour.

After I was elected to Congress in 1976, Jack came to Washington to work on my staff as legislative director, and he has been with me ever since. He was my longtime chief of staff and most recently served as Democratic counsel on the House Armed Services Committee.

I believe that I must be one of the most fortunate people ever to serve in the U.S. Congress because I have been blessed with a staff member and a friend like Jack—a man who is not only talented and hard working, but who has also demonstrated his extraordinary loyalty time and again through the years. I have come to rely upon his sound judgement, his policy recommendations, and his broad expertise on matters both large and small.

For me, Jack epitomizes all that is good about the thousands of Americans who dedicate their lives and their considerable talents to public service. I will miss his daily advice, counsel, and calm demeanor, but I wish him, as well as his wife Beth and children Leslie and Michael, the very best as Jack begins his next career. I know my colleagues join me in

thanking Jack for his years of distinguished service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ST. MARY OF THE SPRINGS ACADEMY ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNVEILING OF A HISTORICAL MARKER

#### HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 5, 2003*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to help recognize the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs Academy and the alumnae of the Academy.

Central Ohio takes pride in its history and appreciates the tremendous contribution to our community and nation by the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs Academy through the education and development of our young people. Over a hundred and seventy years have passed since you began the effort to educate Ohio's youth, regardless of creed.

Your success in providing an outstanding academic foundation is personified in your illustrious alumna, Anne O'Hare McCormick. Her contributions to journalism testify to the quality scholarship demanded by the Dominican Sisters.

May this bicentennial plaque honoring the Academy's faculty and alumnae, living and deceased, and their outstanding fellow alumna Ms. McCormick stand as a reminder to all those who see it that our nation has always cherished the pursuit of educational excellence.

Congratulations on the installation of the historical marker.

#### DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

#### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2861) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans' Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I rise today with great disappointment in what occurred in the House today with regard to the veterans' budget.

Last spring, the original budget resolution passed in the House by a narrow vote reduced funding for veterans medical care by a total of \$28 billion over ten years, a far cry from what is needed for the health of our veterans today. After much debate about the veterans' budget, many members of this body—including every member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee—fought to increase the amount of funding for veterans in the budget resolution to at least the amount promised by the Senate. Thankfully, after a hard